

Water funds, limiting resources for these vital repairs and breaking faith with our state and local partners on this collaborative effort.

Chesapeake Bay clean-up is at a critical juncture. As state and local governments are working to implement ambitious plans, the federal government must maintain or increase its funding support, not cut it.

Sequestration's meat-ax approach jeopardizes the years of planning and collaboration that have led to this moment, arbitrarily and unwisely slowing progress on what should be a national priority. We must replace sequestration with a balanced approach that includes revenue increases and targeted cuts while maintaining investments in initiatives like Bay restoration that preserve our national resources. The Chesapeake Bay is a national treasure and an economic engine for the Bay states. It must not fall victim to sequestration's ill-advised cuts.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF PASADENA CITY COUNCILMAN CHRIS HOLDEN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris Holden for his 23 years of service on the Pasadena, California, City Council. A graduate of Pasadena High School and San Diego State University, Chris was a basketball star in school and played professionally overseas. He then returned to California to give back to his community by spending the great majority of his life in serving the city he loves.

He was first elected to the Pasadena City Council in 1989 at the age of 28 as the youngest member of the Council, and served until he resigned in November 2012, upon his election to the California State Assembly. In 1997, Chris was chosen by his colleagues to serve a two-year term as Mayor of Pasadena, the first African-American man to hold that position.

During his years on the City Council, Chris served his Pasadena district with distinction, championing efforts to establish a living wage in Pasadena, crack down on slumlords, create drug-free zones, and bring development, jobs, and services to Northwest Pasadena. Chris has also been a strong supporter of deregulation of Pasadena's municipal utility, a leader of charter reform that created a city-wide elected mayor, and a proponent of policies and projects that have revitalized Pasadena, such as the Paseo Colorado, Old Pasadena, and the Pasadena Convention Center.

His service as a long-time Board member of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority and supporter of the creation and expansion of the Los Angeles to Pasadena Gold Line clearly demonstrates his commitment to the entire region.

I know that Chris will be missed in Pasadena City Hall, but I am pleased that he has chosen to bring his unique talents on our behalf to Sacramento. I join my colleagues in thanking Chris for his service and wish he, his wife Melanie, and their children, Nicholas, Alexander, Austin, Mariah, and Noah the best in this new chapter of their lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK VENNER III

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the Christmas Season we remember people far and near and reminisce about those who are no longer with us. I rise to remember Frank Venner, who passed from this life in the summer of 2012 at age 85 years.

Frank Venner was born March 8, 1927, in Baltimore, Maryland. After living in Providence, Rhode Island and Binghamton, New York, the family moved to Toledo when Frank was a teenager. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1944 and from the University of Notre Dame in 1949. He served in the Army Air Corps. Frank and his wife Ruth married in 1952 and together raised six children. Their children, along with their eleven grandchildren, were his pride and joy.

While in college, Frank began working in radio on the college station. Back in Toledo he embarked on a career over four decades in broadcasting. He started at WSPD, Toledo's local radio and television station. Later, the television component became WTVG. Frank Venner was a news fixture at the station, his journalism respected in the community. His signature features were the popular "Weather-in-the-Weather" show which was broadcast from atop the former Commodore Perry Hotel, the High School Quiz program which he hosted for a quarter century, and the Venner-Ward Report which he co-anchored with another longtime Toledo newsmen Gordon Ward. Mr. Ward recalled, "Integrity was primary in all that he did. His word was his bond." Frank Venner also served as editorial director and news director at the station.

Frank Venner's imprimatur on Toledo news is solid. A true journalist, his impact on television from its earliest days into the 21st century is remarkable. He leaves a lasting legacy. He was a man who often reported what others did, but also went beyond his profession and left our community and its institutions stronger for his presence. His resonant voice became synonymous with Toledo.

A more important legacy is his family. His presence will be missed by his children and grandchildren, relatives and friends. Yet, he lives on in them and in the media he was so much a part of shaping.

IN HONOR OF THE LT. WALTER SOLENSKI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of a beloved officer of the Coventry Police Department. Lt. Walter Solenski will retire on December 31, 2012 after 37 years of service to his town. A lifetime resident of Coventry, Connecticut, Walter's compassionate attention to the community is known by young and old. Police Chief Mark Palmer described Lt. Solenski as an "every day hero." He is someone who is steady and

reliable; he is always there for the residents of Coventry when they need him.

Following his graduation from Coventry High School in 1970, Walter joined the United States Navy. Upon returning home from a four-year tour of duty he was hired as a Class D Patrolman in his local police department. Walter quickly proved his dedication to his work by actively pursuing training and certification courses. He continued to seek out ways to improve his service to the town throughout his career. This professionalism and diligence allowed Walter to rise to the rank of Lieutenant in April, 1995.

Throughout his time on the police force, Lt. Solenski received many accolades and letters of gratitude from those whom he had helped. Coventry residents appreciated his timely response and attention, especially to emergency situations. Last summer he was chosen by a local committee to be a parade marshal at Coventry's 300th Anniversary Parade—a testament to his importance in the town.

I ask that my colleagues join with me to honor Lt. Walter Solenski and the work he did for the people of Coventry. As he prepares for his retirement with his wife Yvonne, I am confident that Walter will continue to play an active role in the community. His commitment to the Coventry Police Department and to his town will not soon be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 30, 2012, I was unable to be present for recorded votes due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on vote No. 612 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 6429 with instructions); and "no" on vote No. 613 (on passage of H.R. 6429).

RECOGNIZING LISA SANTERAMO

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise to recognize a departing member of my original district staff, Lisa Wieber Santeramo.

Since I opened my first district office in Coram, New York, Lisa has distinguished herself as among the most competent and hard working members of my staff. Over the course of this past decade, I watched her develop and rise from a staff assistant answering the telephones at my reception desk to her ultimate position as the highest ranking member of my district staff, District Office Director.

Lisa was born and raised in Holbrook. She attended Sachem High School, the largest high school in the township, where she first developed her talent for public affairs as a leader in student government. She brought her enthusiasm and passion for leadership to my first campaign and to my congressional office after graduating from Stony Brook University where she was also involved in student leadership. While an undergraduate at Stony